

The South Dakota Child Development Associate (SDCDA) Training Project provides early childhood professional training and mentorship for individuals who work with children.



CDA Credential

The Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential is a nationally-recognized early childhood professional credential. The CDA assessment and credentialing procedures are administered by the Council for Professional Recognition in Washington, D.C.

The goal of this national program is to enhance the quality of care children receive in early childhood programs. People who pursue the CDA credential learn to nurture children's physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth.

CDA students can specialize and complete credentialing procedures in one of the following areas:

- Preschool Center-Based
- Infant/Toddler Center-Based
- Family Child Care
- Home Visitor

CDA Training

The SDCDA Project consists of adult education training programs located throughout the state. Classes are offered during hours that are convenient for people who work with children during the day. The SDCDA courses address the following training areas:

- Planning a safe, healthy learning environment.
- Steps to advance children's physical and intellectual development.
- Positive ways to support children's social and emotional development.
- Strategies to establish productive relationships with families.
- Strategies to manage an effective program operation.
- Maintaining commitment to professionalism.
- Observing and recording children's behavior.
- Principles of child growth and development.



CDA Curriculum

The curriculum provides formal training and professional mentorship that supports each student's ability to meet the national CDA assessment requirements including:

- 120 hours of formal education.
- Professional Resource File and other documentation of competence.
- Formal observation completed by trained CDA advisors.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the program, you must currently work with children or wish to pursue a career working with children. Also, you must have an opportunity to work with children during the training.

Prior to applying for the national CDA assessment, you must:

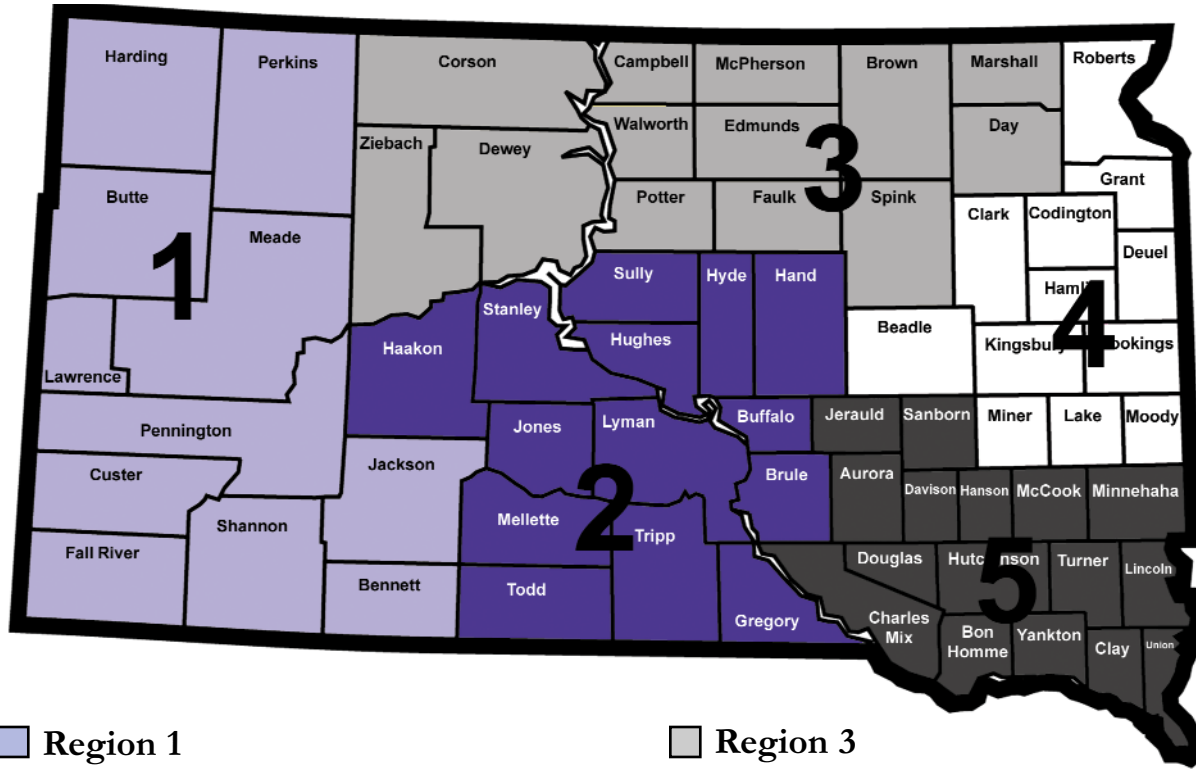
- Be at least 18 years old.
- Have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Have 480 hours of experience working with children within the past 5 years.
- Have 120 hours of formal early childhood education completed within the past 5 years.

Enrollment Information

SDCDA is part of the statewide Early Childhood Enrichment training system. For more information about enrollment, program costs or training in your area, contact the Early Childhood and School-Age Resource and Referral Program nearest you. Addresses and phone numbers for the Resource and Referral Programs are listed on the back of this brochure.



Resource and Referral Programs



Region 1

Early Childhood Connections

809 South Street Suite 304
Rapid City, SD 57701

Telephone: (605) 342-6464 or 1-888-999-7759

Email: ecconn@rushmore.com

Region 2

Pierre Area Referral Service

118 E. Missouri
Pierre, SD 57501

Telephone: (605) 224-8731 or 1-800-499-4767

Email: pars@dakota2k.net

Region 5

Sioux Valley Children's CHILD Services

1115 W. 41st St.
Sioux Falls, SD 57106

Telephone: (605) 333-0698 or 800-227-3020 (Ext. 4)

Email: childsrv@siouxvalley.org

Region 3

Early Childhood Partners

1500 N. Main St.
Aberdeen SD 57401

Telephone: (605) 229-8505 or 1-800-982-6404

Email: early@presentation.edu

Region 4

Family Resource Network

HDCFS Department, SDSU, Box 2218
Brookings, SD 57007

Telephone: (605) 688-5730 or 1-800-354-8238

Email: SDSU_FRN@SDSTATE.EDU

Visit our Web Site at:

[www.state.sd.us/
social/ccs/ccshome.htm](http://www.state.sd.us/social/ccs/ccshome.htm)



Child Care Services:

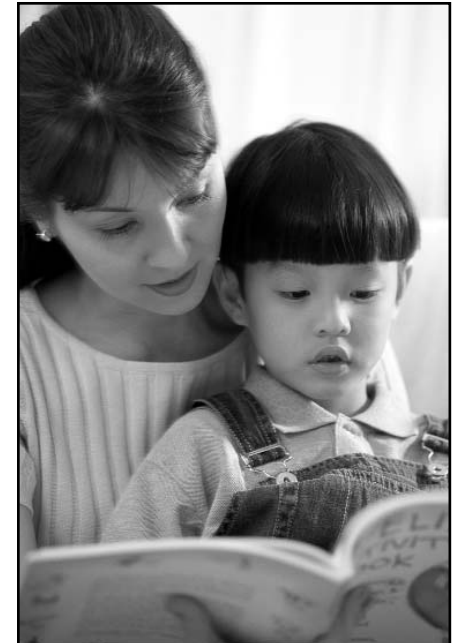
1-800-227-3020

DSS Nondiscrimination Policy:

It is the policy of the Department of Social Services (DSS) to make sure that applications for program benefits and services are made available to everyone and that program benefits are granted to all who meet eligibility standards. DSS staff, programs and policies must not discriminate against clients or applicants for services because of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion and national origin. DSS must also provide fair and equal access to all of its programs and services for people with disabilities; this includes both physical access to buildings and access to programs and services. To file a complaint of discrimination write: DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291 or call: (605) 773-3305. If you have a question regarding program services, please contact your nearest DSS office.

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Department of Social Services
Division of Child Care Services